

Message Text

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61

ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 USIA-06 CU-02 /021 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/SOV:WKUSHLIS:JLR

APPROVED BY EUR/SOV:SPOLANSKY

USIA/IEU:MHOFFMAN

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R 130259Z FEB 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, UR

SUBJECT: EXHIBITS: PHOTOGRAPHY USA

REF: (A) MOSCOW 1779; (B) STATE 26696

1. FOLLOWING INFO MAY BE HELPFUL TO EMBASSY IN RESPONSE TO REFTEL A. SOVIET CULTURAL COUNSELOR SAKOVICH BROUGHT SITE SURVEY TEAM MEMBERS POCHITALIN AND DUGLADZE TO DISCUSS SCIENTIFIC SIBERIA EXHIBIT WITH EUR/SOV DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR EXCHANGES (POLANSKY). SAKOVICH PROPOSED CITIES ORALLY AND HANDED US TWO TYPED SHEETS OF PAPER--AN INFORMATION SHEET ON THE EXHIBIT AND AN ITINERARY. BOTH PAPERS LISTED FORT WORTH AND SALT LAKE CITY AS PROPOSED CITIES. ON BOTH PAPERS, "OR SAN DIEGO" (ALSO CLOSED CITY) FOLLOWED SALT LAKE CITY. EMBASSY SHOULD BE AWARE THAT, FOR EXCHANGE AGREEMENT ACTIVITIES, WE DROPPED CLOSED CITY DESIGNATIONS IN 1962.

2. SAKOVICH ASKED EUR/SOV TO CONTACT MUSEUMS AND MAKE APPOINTMENTS FOR SITE SURVEY TEAM IN CITIES WHICH HE HAD PROPOSED FOR EXHIBIT. EUR/SOV AGREED TO DO SO. IN THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAST, AN ESCORT OFFICER WAS SENT WITH SOVIET SITE SURVEY

TEAM, BUT LACK OF FUNDS PREVENTED US FROM DOING SO ON THIS OCCASION.

3. THERE WAS NO INDICATION THAT SOVIETS WERE IN EARLIER CONTACT WITH US CITY OF STATE OFFICIALS. NOR DID CITY OR STATE OFFICIALS DISCUSS SUBJECT WITH DEPARTMENT OR USIA. EUR/SOV CONTACTED LOCAL MUSEUMS TO MAKE APPOINTMENTS REQUESTED BY SITE SURVEY TEAM. SOME MUSEUMS WERE INTERESTED; OTHERS DECLINED BECAUSE SPACE UNAVAILABLE OR SUBJECT MATTER INAPPROPRIATE FOR SPECIALIZED MUSEUM.

4. DEPARTMENT AND USIA AGREE THAT EMBASSY SHOULD STRESS PRINCIPLE OF RECIPROCITY IN REQUESTING KUYBYSHEV, BUT DO NOT BELIEVE IT USEFUL TO ATTEMPT TO DRAW EXACT PARALLEL WITH SOVIET EXHIBIT IN US, PARTICULARLY SINCE WE HAVE ELIMINATED CLOSED ZONES/CITIES FOR ALL PRACTICAL PURPOSES UNDER EXCHANGE AGREEMENT. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE035760
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: WKUSHLIS:JLR
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760056-0755
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760249/aaaabrbc.tel
Line Count: 78
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 MOSCOW 1779, 76 STATE 26696
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06 MAY 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <01 JUL 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EXHIBITS: PHOTOGRAPHY USA
TAGS: OEXC, UR
To: MOSCOW
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006